



News from the CITY OF CARMEL

For the Citizens of Carmel

Volume 2 • 2008

Keystone Avenue Reconstruction Project Begins

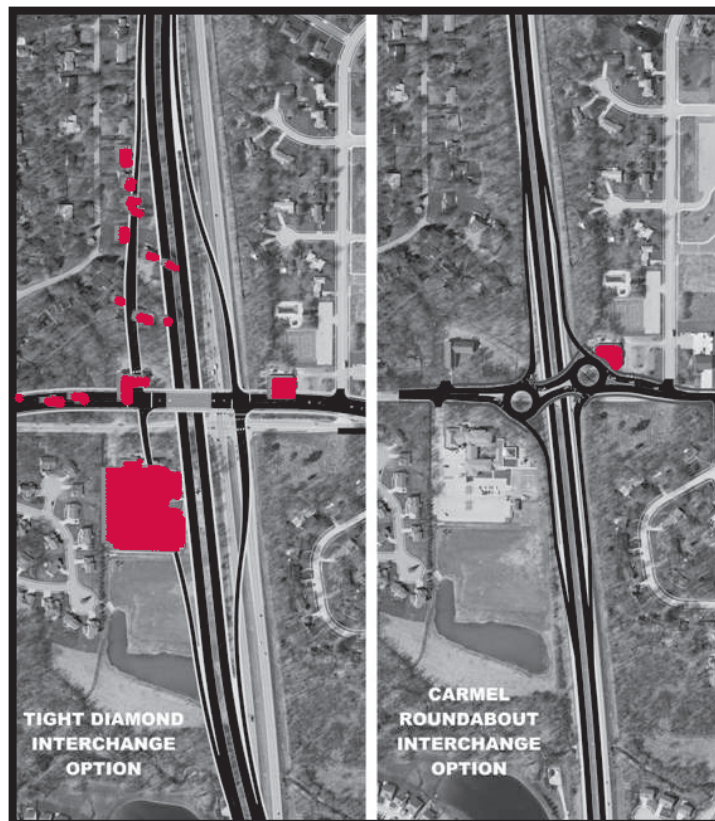
Carmel Mayor, Jim Brainard unveiled the final plans for the 106th & 126th Street interchanges of the Keystone Avenue reconstruction project and discussed the overall communications plan at a recent news conference.

"The changes we are making will move traffic more efficiently and make our community safer and more walkable. This road design also requires much less land than other traditional long-term fixes. These benefits are coupled with reduced emissions and reduced gas consumption because vehicles will no longer be sitting in traffic at stop lights and intersections," said Mayor Brainard.

In September 2007, the State of Indiana relinquished Keystone to the City of Carmel. At that time, the state also agreed to pay Carmel \$90 million to take over the road, \$50 million of which has already been paid. Since then, Carmel has moved forward at an accelerated pace to develop the necessary design documents to proceed with construction and quickly improve the roadway.

One reason the City of Carmel wanted to assume control of Keystone was to ensure that the reconstruction of the road was compatible with the surrounding residential neighborhoods. The state had planned to add two additional lanes to Keystone, expanding it up to eight lanes in some places. This would only have put more pressure on the intersections and been a short term fix. Eventually, tight diamond interchanges would have been needed to handle the traffic at each intersection along keystone. This design would have required the removal of over a hundred properties consisting of homes, churches

Continued on page 2



106th Street and Keystone Avenue

The aerial rendering on the left shows in red the structures that would need to be removed if a traditional tight diamond interchange were to be installed. The aerial rendering on the right shows Carmel's proposed roundabout design which will have a much smaller impact on properties.

Carmel Express Route to Indy Begins

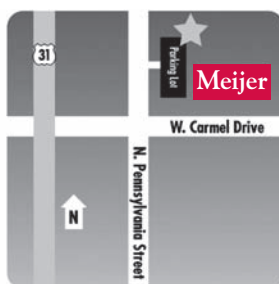
Carmel residents commuting to downtown Indianapolis can leave the driving to someone else. The new IndyGo Commuter Express picks-up and drops-off at the Carmel Meijer location Monday through Friday.

Bus fares are \$2 each way and exact fare is required.

Single ride passes are available online at www.IndyGo.net and can be purchased in person at IndyGo Customer Service Center in the Indianapolis City Market.

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Carmel Pick-up and Parking



Meijer is located at the corner of N. Pennsylvania St. and W. Carmel Drive

- Pennsylvania St. Entrance
- Please park in designated area of lot (Northwest corner of property)

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www.carmel.in.gov

A Message from the Mayor



Mayor Jim Brainard

As the days grow longer and warmer, I've noticed families out biking and walking in neighborhoods and along paths. Our bike committee recently identified bike routes and loops to create more connectivity for recreational bikers and commuters in Carmel.

City leaders have strived to find innovative solutions to manage the growth in our community. The Keystone Avenue reconstruction project will make the roadway safer, help alleviate congestion and create a more pedestrian friendly roadway.

Carmel's Wastewater Treatment BioPasteur process is now included in the National League of Cities best practices database. You can read about how this system is more cost effective and environmentally friendly in this issue of the newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you out and about as the weather improves. Please feel free to call or email me if you have questions or suggestions. Your comments and ideas are always welcome.

Very truly yours,
Jim Brainard
Mayor Jim Brainard

Keystone (continued)

and businesses. For example, at 106th Street, the city's plan only adversely affected one commercial business, where the traditional long-term fix would have called for the removal of 15 structures, including homes and churches.

"Our plan safely connects neighborhoods on the east and west side of Keystone via pathways for pedestrians and bicyclists. Instead of having to cross several lanes of high speed traffic, pedestrians will only have to cross a couple of lanes of lower speed traffic that will be either entering or exiting the roundabout," noted Mayor Brainard.

The City has begun to prepare for construction. Clearing some trees and planning for utility relocations are a few of the items with which the City can proceed immediately.

Four lanes of Keystone will be open to traffic throughout the construction process.

However, some temporary lane restrictions, limited to off-peak hours, may be required for specific construction activities.

There will be a period of time when 106th & 126th streets will be closed to east/west traffic across Keystone. This phase will most likely begin in June 2008. Some minor lane marking modifications and traffic signal timing adjustments will be made along the detour route to help facilitate traffic movement.



Mayor Brainard also discussed the communications plan that has been created to keep the community informed. The name "CarmelLink" has been chosen to represent the

Keystone reconstruction project. The logo will be used to indicate the presence of Keystone update information. Focus groups consisting of residents and business leaders met this winter to discuss communication issues regarding the project.

In addition to the City's regular communications, a new website, www.CarmelLink.org, has been created that is dedicated to the Keystone reconstruction project. The website includes a project timeline and a feature to sign up for email notices relating to the project.

Neighborhood associations most closely affected by the construction process are being contacted in order to set up meetings to discuss the project and how it affects their specific location. The City will also work closely with the businesses, to provide them with road detour updates in plenty of time to send information to their customers and suppliers.

Support for the Arts Committee Recommends 2008 Distribution

The Carmel Arts Advisory Committee voted to recommend the distribution of the Support for the Arts funding for this year. The 2008 budget included \$675,000, which is roughly 1% of the City's budget, to be distributed among the following local arts organizations:

- Actors Theatre of Indiana
- Carmel Symphony Orchestra
- Carmel Arts Council
- Carmel Community Players
- CarmelFest

- Carmel International Arts Festival
- Gregory Hancock Dance Theater
- Indiana Dance Ambassadors
- The Museum of Miniature Houses
- City Center Children's Theater
- Carmel Fountain Square (Gazebo Concerts)
- Indianapolis Chinese Performing Arts, Inc.
- International Talent Academy
- The Sculpture Foundation
- Carmel Brass
- A portion of the funds will also be used to purchase public art for the Arts & Design District.

"Funding arts organizations in our community is a strong economic development tool for the City of Carmel. Since the creation of the Arts and Design District in Carmel, more than 350,000 people visit the district each year. That number grows as more merchants and galleries locate in the district and more public events are added to the calendar," said Mayor Jim Brainard.

Wastewater Treatment Process Named “Best Practice”

Carmel was recently notified that its Wastewater Treatment process will be added to the “Best Practices” database for the National League of Cities, also known as the NLC. This database provides the 18,000 members of the NLC with information on a wide range of issues. Carmel had previously submitted an entry called “A High Tech Approach to Wastewater Treatment” to the NLC’s Award of Municipal Excellence competition and, from that entry, Carmel’s wastewater process was chosen to be highlighted in the NLC database.

Through Carmel’s process, municipal wastewater is



turned into Class A biosolids (also known as Class A Sludge), which can be blended with soil and other materials to produce a form of topsoil. Before installing the system, Carmel had to transport its biosolids up to 40 miles away to find acceptable land application sites. This translates into cost savings for the city of approximately \$200,000 per year in fuel, employee labor, equipment maintenance and permitting.

Bicycle Network

In an effort to enhance Carmel’s bicycle network the City of Carmel and local cycling advocates have worked together to identify a system of bike routes and circuits. This system has been designed to identify existing streets, multiuse paths, and bike lanes which will best serve to move cyclists around Carmel.

The bicycle network identifies eight cross-city bike routes and five bike circuits, or loops.

Routes

The bike routes will consist of two east-west bound routes and six north-south routes. The routes are intended for longer trips and will provide access to various destinations throughout



Carmel as well as link to neighboring communities.

Circuits

The bike circuits guide their users to the same point at which they started, passing some of Carmel’s best amenities along the way. Each circuit, geared toward casual riders, will offer its own unique riding experience to cyclists by highlighting different areas within Carmel.

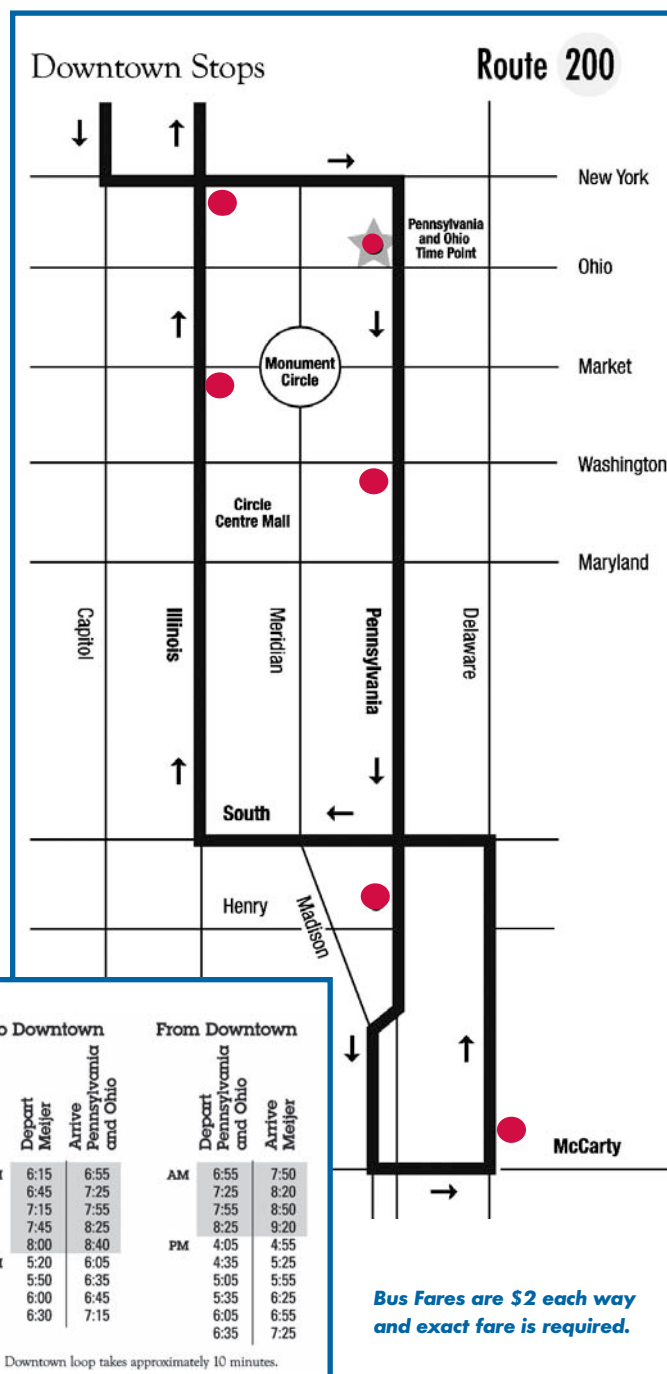
“The City is working hard to make Carmel even more bicycle friendly,” said Ron Carter, Councilman and local bicycle enthusiast.

Carmel Government

IndyGo Launches Carmel Express Route *(continued)*

Indianapolis downtown bus stops are shown on the map and marked with ICE Carmel Route bus stop signs at each stop. For more information

about bus routes and schedules, call the Customer Service Center at 635-3344 or visit the IndyGo website at www.indygo.net.



Road Construction



Project and Start Date	Descriptions
Towne Road	Improvements consist of an upgraded roadway with a concrete curb, storm sewer, multi-use paths and landscaping.
Spring 2008, 131st & 146th Streets	New roundabout at the intersections of 136th and 141st Streets. Anticipated completion in 2009.
Spring 2008, 116th & 126th Streets	Brief closure in mid-June. Anticipated completion - June 30, 2008
131st Street	Improvements consist of widening to accommodate one lane in each direction with a median, storm sewer, multi-use paths and landscaping.
Spring 2008, Ditch & Towne	Open to through traffic until the new roundabout at 116th and Clay Center Rd. re-opens in the Spring of 2008. Anticipated completion Fall 2008.
Summer 2008, Towne to Shelborne	Closed to through traffic during construction. Local access will be allowed as necessary. Anticipated completion Fall 2008.
Clay Center and 116th Street	Converted into a roundabout. Replacement of culvert carrying Clay Center Road over Williams Creek north of the intersection.
Spring 2008, 116th Street Roundabout	116th Street and the south end of Clay Center Rd. will be closed to through traffic for approx. 60 days. Anticipated completion in late May 2008.
Grand Blvd	New roadway connecting Guilford Rd. just south of Carmel Middle School to Main St. just west Old Meridian. Project includes a two lane boulevard with a median, storm sewer, curb and gutter, on- street parking and multi-use paths.
Fall 2007	Anticipated completion in Fall of 2008.
Monon Bridge over Carmel Drive	Pedestrian bridge for the Monon Trail over Carmel Drive.
Spring 2008, Monon Trail Bridge	Lane restrictions may occur during off peak hours. Paths along City Center Dr., Guilford Rd. and 116th St. will provide a detour on the Monon Trail during construction. Anticipated completion in late September 2008.
Range Line Road & 136th Street	Converted into a roundabout. Also a new bridge over Cool Creek just north of 136th Street.
Summer 2008, 136th Roundabout	Construction is expected to take 60 days to complete.
Keystone Avenue	106th and 126th intersections will be converted into roundabout interchanges.
Spring 2008, 106th Street Interchange	106th St. will be closed at Keystone. It is planned to maintain four lanes on Keystone Ave. at all times. Interchange is expected to open in December 2008.
Spring 2008, 126th Street Interchange	126th St. will be closed at Keystone. It is planned to maintain four lanes on Keystone Ave. at all times. Interchange is expected to open in December 2008.
Pedestrian Bridges on 131st Street	East of Hazel Dell Pkwy on the north side of 131st St. over the Mitchner Ditch and west of River Road on the north side of 131st St. over the Vestal Ditch.
Spring 2008, 131st Street over Mitchner Ditch	Approximately two months to complete. No lane restrictions are expected, however, if restrictions are necessary, they will likely be short-term.
Spring 2008, 131st Street over Vestal Ditch	Approximately two months to complete. No lane restrictions are expected, however, if restrictions are necessary, they will likely be short-term.
131st Street Bridge over Vestal Ditch	The Hamilton County Highway Department (HCHD) plans to make a small repair to the substructure of the 131st Street bridge over Vestal Ditch.
Spring 2008	A short-term (two week) closure of 131st Street at the Vestal Ditch, which is east of Hazel Dell Pkwy, is expected. Contact the HCHD at 773-7770 or visit www.co.hamilton.in.us for more information.



City is Recognized for its Environmental Efforts

The City of Carmel has been named a finalist for the Home Depot Foundation and US Conference of Mayors "Community of Trees Award." The competition is for cities that maintain a "green" infrastructure and demonstrate superior efforts by being environmentally friendly. For the cities which are deemed the winners, grants will be awarded to the mayors and their

respective city's non-profit partner to further the goal of promoting healthy communities through tree planting and the management of the urban forest. Carmel advanced through the first round of judging, which took place in December 2007. The winner will be announced at a ceremony during the U.S. Conference of Mayors June meeting.



"CarmelCan!" Launches Volunteer Drive

"CarmelCan!" which was initiated by Mayor Jim Brainard to recognize and coordinate community volunteers, is seeking new volunteer members.

Available volunteer opportunities include seasonal community events such as Carmelfest, Farmers Market and Arbor Day, just to name a few.

Persons interested in becoming volunteers or organizations seeking volunteers should contact Rosemary Conard, the new "CarmelCan!" volunteer coordinator, at 814-1111 or email her at



rconard@carmel.in.gov.

Volunteers' efforts will not go unnoticed. Each month a community volunteer is recognized on "Connecting with Carmel," which airs on the Government Cable Channel 16. Also, Doug Kemp, owner of Dooley O'Toole's on Carmel Drive, generously awards every "CarmelCAN!" featured volunteer of the month a gift certificate for his restaurant. Give Rosemary a call and you could be the next community volunteer to be recognized!

Carmel Government



City Recycling Services Expanded

In response to citizen requests, Carmel has expanded its recycling services by adding another location and accepting more items. Now, citizens can take their recyclable papers, cardboard, aluminum and metal cans, plastics and bottles to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site at 901 North Range Line Road.

The 24-hour recycling facilities behind PrimeLife Enrichment at 1078 Third Avenue SW will also continue to be available. This site currently accepts aluminum cans,

corrugated cardboard, newspapers/phone books, and white office papers.

Carmel City Hall is going green!

The City of Carmel uses environmentally preferred products to make less negative impact on the community in which we live. Many of the products used at City Hall, which are provided by Kimberly-Clark Professionals and HP Products, are approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA approves products by evaluating its overall environmental value and its level of post consumer waste. A product's overall environmental value takes into account the amount of recyclable material in the product as well as how the product affects the environment as it is made and after it is used. City Hall currently uses several environmentally preferred products. Some of those products include hand soap, toilet paper, trash bags, reduced mercury light bulbs, and paper hand towels.

Drop-off hours at the Household Hazardous Waste site are:

Tuesday - Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday
9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sunday & Monday
Closed.

Please do not drop-off
recyclables when collection
site is closed.



Rosemary
Conard

News from Sister City, Kawachinagano

Story submitted by Harumi Goto with
KIFA (Kawachinagano International
Friendship Association)

"Demons out! Luck in!"

If you come to visit Japan in January and early February, you would probably find the masks of demons in the supermarkets and the convenience stores and also flyers about sushi rolls. They are for the "Setsubun" ceremony.

February 3rd was "Setsubun" in Japan. It literally means the division of the season but in Japan it always refers to the spring Setsubun. The traditional "Mamemaki" (bean throwing ceremony) is carried out to purify the home from evil. People shout "Oni wa soto!" (Demons out!) "Fuku wa uchi!" (Luck in!) and throw soy beans. Sometimes members of the family play the demon's roles wearing the demon's masks and other peo-



ple actually throw beans at them. After the ceremony, people pick up the beans and they are supposed to eat as many beans as their age. This ceremony is carried out also at schools, kindergartens, temples and shrines.

This year we went to Kanshin-ji temple to take photos of Setsubun. Every year beans and rice cakes are thrown at the ceremony but it was snowy on the 3rd this year

so they decided to hand them out.

Mainly in the Kansai area in Japan, another Setsubun practice has become popular since the 1970's. It is "Eho-maki eating."

"Eho" means "good luck direction" and "maki" suggests "makizushi" (sushi roll). On February 3rd people eat uncut sushi rolls facing the yearly lucky compass direction determined by the zodiac symbol of the year.

Luck is thought to be rolled in Eho-maki and people eat it wishing good luck. They are supposed to eat without saying anything to prevent the good luck from slipping away from

the mouth. The traditional Osaka merchants seemed to have practiced this custom in the 1920's. It was brought into the daylight again by the people in "nori" (seaweed paper) business to promote more consumption of nori at the "Nori Festival" in 1977, which included a fast Maki-zushi eating contest that was broadcast on television. This is thought to be the start of this custom. In 1989, Seven-Eleven in Hiroshima started selling "Eho-maki" and since 2005 three major convenience stores in Japan, Seven-Elevens, Family Marts and Lawsons, have sold more than 6 million of them. Now Eho-maki for Setsubun is a big business like chocolate for St. Valentine's Day.



Carmel Government

Carmel Regional Performing Arts Center Construction Update

Mass excavation for the Regional Performing Arts Center Concert Hall building is complete.

Work on the building foundations started on March 3, 2008 as scheduled. The utility service tunnel is being expanded to the north from the Energy Center to the Concert

Hall. Final bidding of the project will be in July 2008. This phase of construction includes items such as drywall & plaster; doors & hardware; interior and exterior windows, interior masonry, electrical systems, and elevators. The Concert Hall is expected to open in the fall of 2010.



View of the Performing Arts Center construction site from City Center Drive.



Burn Camp Ride

Wednesday, May 28

Fundraiser Sponsored by Carmel Firefighters Local 4444

Start at: Carmel Fire Headquarters, 2 Civic Square

Registration: 8 - 9:15 a.m. or pre-register at www.carmelfirefighters.com. Coffee, donuts, and juice provided. Bikes leave at: 9:30 a.m.

Destination: Hoosier Burn Camp/Camp Tecumseh Brookstone, IN

Cost: \$30 per bike
(Lunch provided at the Hoosier Burn Camp)

Hoosier Burn Camp is a non-profit organization offering summer camps for young men and woman (8 - 18 yrs of age) from Indiana who have experienced injuries from burns or who have been treated for burn injuries in the state of Indiana.



www.CarmelFireFighters.com



Community Events

Coming Up at the Parks

Outdoor Aqua Park Opening

Saturday, May 24

Blood Drive

Thursday, May 29

Time: 3 - 6 p.m.

Free: All ages welcome
The Monon Center, West Parking Lot

Family Campout

Friday, June 13 - Saturday, June 14

Time: 4:30 p.m. - 9 a.m.

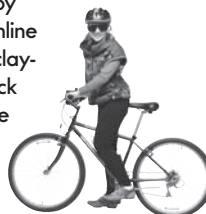
Fee: \$35/family
All ages are welcome
West Park, 2700 W. 116th Street

Tour de Carmel

Saturday, September 13

Bike ride (not a race) along 10 and 20-mile routes throughout Carmel. To ensure a goodie bag and T-shirt, register by September 6 online at www.carmelclayparks.com or pick up a form at The Monon Center.

Fee: \$5



The Monon Center
AT CENTRAL PARK

Tour de Carmel (continued)

Adaptive Ride: 10-mile Route

10-mile bike ride for individuals with special needs
All ages are welcome
Clay Terrace, 14390 Clay Terrace Blvd.

Fee: \$5

Get your copy of the 2008 Summer Brochure for details on all of your favorite events for the whole family including Movies in the Park, Kids Konzerts, Touch a Truck and more.

Visit www.carmelclayparks.com for more information.



Carmel Arts & Design District Update

also now open and available for viewing.

New Locations

Businesses are also changing locations within the district. **Grosser & Co. Master Jewelers** has moved across the intersection from its original site and is now located on the third floor of the **Art & Soul** building at 1 S. Range Line Road, Suite #310. **Skin Sense Med Spa** has expanded and moved to a larger space at 411 1st Ave. NW. **B. Meylor Interiors** has now moved back

to Main Street into a new showroom located at 110 E. Main Street.

A walk by the **Carmel Music Center** reveals a "facade lift" with new awnings, fresh paint and other exterior work. Those driving on Range Line just south of Main Street will also notice the large steel beams being erected for the **Indiana Design Center**, an 80,000 sq. ft. facility housing vendors and products for home building and remodeling.

Things in the Carmel Arts & Design District are movin' and shakin' this spring. New businesses are popping up such as the **Bistro de Paris**, serving delicious French cuisine with American and African influence, and **Frazier Pettie Fine Art**, showcasing colorful impressionist paintings. The **Renaissance Condos**, located on the third and fourth floors of the **Evan Lurie Gallery**, are

Events

Muldoons
Live music Thursday & Saturday evenings

Gallery Walks
Friday, May 23
Saturday, July 12

Rock the District
Saturday, July 19

www.CarmelArtsAndDesign.com

Upcoming 2008 Meetings

City Council Meeting Dates

The City Council meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

April 21

May 5 & 19

June 2 & 16

Watch City Council meetings live on Channel 16. Channel 21 replays City Council meetings every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Board of Public Works & Safety Meetings

The Board of Public Works meets the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 10 a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

May 7 & 21

June 4 & 18

Check the City of Carmel website at www.carmel.in.gov for events, traffic updates and news.

Plan Commission

The Plan Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

May 8 & 20

June 3 & 17

Board of Zoning Appeals

The Board of Zoning Appeals meets the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Caucus Room

April 25

May 7 & 21

June 4 & 18

Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation Board

Meetings held on Tuesdays at The Monon Center, 1235 Central Park Dr. East

(Enter Central Park East from Westfield Blvd. between 116th and 111th)

April 22 @ 6 p.m.

May 8 @ 7 p.m.

May 20 @ 6 p.m.

June 3 @ 7 p.m.

June 17 @ 6 p.m.

City Officials Carmel's City Council

Rick Sharp District 1, Council President

Email: rsharp@carmel.in.gov

Cell phone: (317) 417-5047

Ronald Carter At-Large

Email: rcarter@carmel.in.gov

Cell phone: (317) 710-0162

Kevin D. 'Woody' Rider At-Large

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John V. Accetturo District 3

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Joe Griffiths District 4,

Email: jgriffiths@carmel.in.gov

Cell phone: (317) 417-5048

Luci Snyder District 5

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City Court Judge

Paul A. Felix

Email: pfelix@carmel.in.gov

Office: 571-2440

Clerk-Treasurer

Diana L. Cordray

Office: 571-2430

Email: dcordray@carmel.in.gov

News from the City of Carmel

City Hall

One Civic Square
Carmel, Indiana 46032
(317) 571-2400
www.carmel.in.gov

Hours:

Monday - Friday
8 - 5 p.m.

City Court Hours

Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Mayor's Office

Mayor James Brainard

Office: (317) 571-2401

Email:

jbrainard@carmel.in.gov

This newsletter is a publication of the City of Carmel. Please send your comments, suggestions and news items to City Hall.

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Be a part of this year's CarmelFest events and activities! Visit the website to learn how you can be a sponsor, volunteer, vendor or participant in the parade. Find out where you can get a spark button and how you can hunt for the medallion. Go to www.carmelfest.net for more information.

Bike Week May 12 - 16

**Bike to Work Day
Friday, May 16th
6:30 - 9 a.m.**

Refreshments will be provided at the Monon Center at Central Park where a Park and Ride option will also be available.

Bike Rodeos

**May 12th - College Wood Elementary
May 13th - Prairie Trace Elementary
May 14th - Orchard Park Elementary
4 - 6 p.m.**

Kids will be taught safety tips and techniques for bike riding. All children ages 5-12 are welcome to attend any of the rodeos.

Call David Littlejohn at 571-2306 for more information.



News from the City of Carmel

One Civic Square
Carmel, Indiana 46032-7569
(317) 571-2400

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